

The Sun

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Fantastic Politics of a Supposed Friend of Good Government.

The Hon. R. FULFORD CUTTING, president of the Citizens' Union, yearns to nominate the Hon. WILLIAM TRAYNOR JEROME for Mayor of New York. Such a trifling as asking for Mr. JEROME's consent doesn't bother Mr. CUTTING. He says placidly that "we could not expect to have any reply from him (Mr. JEROME), as we have not asked him anything."

Mr. CUTTING knows perfectly well that Mr. JEROME is not and will not be a candidate for Mayor. He would make a good Mayor. He may yet be elected to that place. But the work which is cut out for him in the District Attorney's office. There is his opportunity. There are his ambitions. The people of New York want to keep him there.

The Citizens' Union is supposed to be a union of citizens desirous of good government. Mayor McCLELLAN has given the city good government. He should receive the support of the friends of good government. As District Attorney Mr. JEROME has done great and brilliant service to good government. He wants to continue that service. But from the heights of his wisdom the president of the Citizens' Union labors for good government by supporting neither McCLELLAN for Mayor nor JEROME for District Attorney. Mr. McCLELLAN has been a capable and an honest Mayor; therefore he should not be renominated. Mr. JEROME will not be a candidate for Mayor; therefore Mr. CUTTING insists that he shall be.

Mr. CUTTING is good enough to say: "What has been said by me and others with respect to Mr. JEROME and the Mayorality is only an expression of personal opinion. We Citizens' Union are not governed by bosses." We hope not, but it isn't Mr. CUTTING's fault.

Mr. Sullivan's Prophecy.

The highly Hon. TIMOTHY D. SULLIVAN, whose eminence as a master of the art of politics none may dispute, has looked with a considerable degree of care into the merits and demerits of municipal ownership; and his decision is emphatically in favor of the proposition that public utilities should be owned and operated by the city government.

Mr. SULLIVAN brushes aside as of little consequence such minor details as the comparative costs of operation under public and private control, the rights of investors and the like. They are of small importance. The principal question involved he answers thus:

"With municipal control of the street railways Tammany Hall would be in power for 150 years."

When the chief of all the Sullivans speaks on a question of public policy it is time for all others to keep silent and give an attentive ear. He knows what he is talking about. He sees, and is not afraid to tell, the real secret of municipal ownership and operation. He does not spend much time or effort among the clouds in which dwell DUNN and JOHNSON and others of their ilk. He is a practical advocate of municipal ownership, for a practical purpose, with a practical end in view.

The Hon. TIMOTHY D. SULLIVAN has contributed more pure wisdom in one sentence to the discussion of municipal ownership than its most pretentious advocates have been able to supply in all their bulky outpourings.

The Uncharged Charge of a Kentucky Colonel.

Soon after Colonel HENRY WATTS-ROBINSON's return to a country which he had too long deprived of his presence, though not entirely of his sage counsels and lucubrations, he was reported as bleeding in that rich vein of prophecy which has made him revered even among the Persians and the Magi. The Philadelphia Record thus adverted to one of his new valuations and to the most famous of the old series:

"Colonel WATTS-ROBINSON, a well known prophet, predicts with absolute certainty that the next President of the United States will be a Republican. He once predicted that a million of men would march to the Capital and prevent the assumption to the Presidency of HAYES. But is not this too soon to lose the next Presidential campaign?"

"Scarcely the Colonel replied officially in his organ:

"He did nothing of the kind in either case; and, of course, it is too early to indulge in Presidential prognostications. But why should the Record go out of its way to make a mistake that only exposes its own ignorance and bad manners?"

Why, 'tis a loving and fair reply, a masterpiece of delicate reproof and knightly courtesy. Yet it does injustice to its author's Pythian gift. It is never too early or too late for him to look into the seeds of time. And the expression "he did nothing of the kind in either case" is not as accurate as its author would wish to be, occasionally.

Colonel WATTS-ROBINSON's greatest civic achievement was his service as a Representative in Congress for a few days. He filled a vacancy admirably. We have always thought that Kentucky would have showed a proper gratitude to her great tribune if she had given him some-

thing better than the butt and fag end of a term in the House.

His greatest, his unforgettable war service, although unfortunately unserved, was an expedition to which our Philadelphia contemporary refers, with a not unnatural exaggeration. In the Courier-Journal of Jan. 8, 1877, "H. W." signed this order to the Democrats of Kentucky:

"Let the convention to be assembled in Louisville provide for the presence of at least 10,000 unarmed Kentuckians in this city (Washington) on the coming fourteenth of February. Less than this would be of no avail. So much, supplemented, as it will be, by other States, will secure through civil agencies a peaceful settlement of the most dangerous issue that ever menaced the existence of free government."

In its editorial columns it said that "100,000 freemen appearing at the seat of Government, each with a petition and remonstrance in his hand, will be an exhibition of peaceful methods of popular government unequalled in all the magnificent displays of the world."

Of course the talk of "peaceful settlement" and "peaceful methods" deceived nobody. Colonel WATTS-ROBINSON proposed to send an army of 100,000 men to Washington. Their presence could have but one purpose. It would invite disorder and begin civil war.

Ten days after the Colonel's call to arms the Democrats held a convention at Louisville. They indulged in a set of resolutions, but they didn't raise a Kentucky army of 10,000, as directed by the Colonel. They refused to press where his bright pen shone 'mid the words of war. The Colonel was in Washington, waiting to become a General and lead that Democratic army. The army couldn't be mobilized.

That unassailable army, that unfought fight, that uncharged charge, that unwon victory, they are the brightest pigments of the Colonel's war-paint:

"How can his glory fade?
O, the wild whoops he made!"

But he asked for a hundred thousand, not a million, of men. We have never understood why he did so. Why didn't he, single handed, inaugurate TILDEN, burning, if necessary, that Capitol which Governor HOCH of Kansas calls so "equivocal"?

Lord Curzon's Resignation.

LORD CURZON's resignation of the post of Viceroy of India, which he has held with credit for some years, is due to the tardy recognition by the British Government of the fact that if England desires to retain her colossal Indian Empire she must keep it as she gained it, namely, by renouncing as impracticable that subordination of the military to the civil power which in the United Kingdom itself is deemed a vital feature of the British Constitution. The friction which had long existed between General Lord KITCHENER and the head of the Calcutta Government has ended with the triumph of the former, who will now have a free hand to reorganize the Anglo-Indian army and convert it into an instrument fitted to withstand and avert internal disaffection and Russian aggression.

The notion that the constitutional principles of government which have been adopted in Great Britain are applicable to an empire comprising more than three hundred million human beings and ruled by fewer than three hundred thousand white men, including civilians as well as soldiers, is, on the face of things, absurd. The absurdity has been generally acknowledged at the India Office by the repeated refusal to heed dogmatic reformers and shortsighted philanthropists and concede to the natives of India a large share in the management of their political and economic affairs. Such a concession would undoubtedly be fatal to the continuance of the British Raj. The rule established by the sword of CLIVE and the iron will of HASTINGS can only in the last resort be upheld by force and fear. That is a truth unacceptable to humanitarians, yet the long history of India proves that the vast population of that country would be incomparably worse off were the strong grasp of England relaxed.

Were the British soldiers to leave India to-morrow, as the Roman legions once left Britain, there would be witnessed an immediate and ferocious outbreak of racial and religious hatreds between the innumerable devotees of Brahmanism and the millions of Moslems, between the Mahatras and Pathans, between the Gurkhas, who are Buddhists, and the Sikhs, who have a creed of their own. The vast peninsula, which stretches from the Himalayas to Cape Comorin and from Afghanistan to Burma, would be transformed instantly into a shambles and a hell. Ultimately, no doubt, Russian armies, descending from the mountains in the guise of liberators or the allies of a faction, would deal with the diverse ethnic types and modes of worship in India as they have dealt with the Mohammedans of Turkestan and the Buddhists of Mongolia, applying the Roman blend of severity and lenity described in the well known maxim, *Parcere subjectis et debellare superbis*.

Spare the submissive and war down the proud. Many a decade, however, and perhaps many a generation, would necessarily elapse before a substitution of a Russian Raj for anarchy could be permanently effected throughout the Indian peninsula. In the meantime such ghastly atrocities would be witnessed as are unexampled in the history of mankind, for never has so huge a population been consigned to political and social disintegration and to merciless civil war. For the prolonged and awful suffering of which India would be the victim recent England would be as distinctly responsible as was decadent Rome for the engulfment of Western Europe in the night of the Dark Ages. History would term England recreant because, having conquered the Indian peninsula, she shirked the duties and flung off the burdens inseparable from conquest.

In the eyes of just, enlightened and generous minded Englishmen it behooves them to discharge patiently and faithfully the obligation imposed upon their country when it accepted the hard won heritage of CLIVE and HASTINGS.

of WELLESLEY, LAWRENCE and DALHOUSIE; the huge congeries of realms acquired and pacified by the genius of soldiers and the wisdom of administrators. Who aims at a given object, however, must also be willing to employ the sole available means thereto. It is absolutely impossible to govern India, the population of which is increasing with portentous rapidity, and at the same time to shield her from Muscovite encroachment unless the methods of rule followed at Calcutta differ radically from those which are embodied in the British Constitution. To grant universal suffrage in India would be an iniquity, to concede a parliament an act of suicide. In the nature of things, the political ideal of the Calcutta Government, which with a handful of agents undertakes to regulate a world, is and must be a paternal despotism. The only staff which it has to lean upon, alike for the maintenance of internal order and for the needs of exterior defense, is a thoroughly organized and disciplined army, always at the same of efficiency, always in a state of mobilization.

It would be vain to assert that the Anglo-Indian administrators have ever had such an instrument at their disposal, but that the attainment of it is not impossible was shown by Lord KITCHENER's achievement in Egypt, where out of materials seemingly worthless he created a military machine before whose irresistible advance the hitherto invincible levies of the Khalifa ABDULLAH went down like grain before the sickle. The same exceptional talent for organization was displayed by him in South Africa, and the British Government would have been blind had it not shown itself alive to the fact that fate had added another General to the small list of great commanders who illuminate England's history. That Ministers did recognize KITCHENER's merit they proved by sending him forth with to the post of danger and of honor, the Anglo-Indian Empire.

When peace is made between Japan and Russia, as soon or late of course it must be, the hunger of the Russian rulers for rehabilitation in the eyes of the world and the expansive energies of the powerful Russian nation will almost certainly point in the direction of British India. It may then prove well for England that she gave KITCHENER a free hand and forbore to cramp his military genius by subjecting it to the pedantry, the routine and the self-importance of a bureaucrat.

The Rise of Beer.

Each year the report of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue bears witness to the increasing popularity of malt liquor as a beverage in the United States and the coincident falling off in the amount of spirituous liquors consumed. In the fiscal year ended with June 30, 1899, 49,450,000 barrels of beer were consumed, an increase of 1,251,000 barrels over previous twelve months. In the same period the quantity of distilled spirits withdrawn for consumption was 116,143,000 gallons, or 704,000 gallons less than in 1898-99. Beer has the call, despite the popularity of "long" drinks containing an ounce or so of whisky to a tumbler of water. A growing understanding of the dangers of even moderate indulgence in "hard" liquor and an increasing tendency on the part of employers to demand practical abstinence from drink among their employees account for the present demand for comparatively innocuous drinks and the decrease in the sales of the more powerful stimulants.

A very large number of the wage earners in America by the terms of their contracts with their employers are bound to abstain from intoxicants, keep out of saloons and lead lives of temperance and sobriety. This number is increasing annually as corporations realize the danger involved in committing important tasks to men with fuddled minds. Competition carries on a temperance crusade of its own, for the drinking man learns that he is not as valuable to his employer as his non-drinking shopmate. When the time comes to lay off a portion of the working force the total abstainer is not the first to go. His work may be done no better than that of the others, but he is more dependable and thus more valuable to his employer.

Public drunkenness is comparatively rare in all the cities of America to-day among all classes of society. JAMES DALRYMPLE of Glasgow, speaking of his recent trip to this country, mentioned the absence of drunken men from the streets of Chicago as something that attracted his attention and roused his admiration throughout his stay here. The spectacle of a drunken workman is one rarely presented in any community nowadays. It is not necessary to hark back to pre-Revolutionary times to find a time when different conditions prevailed. The figures supplied by the Internal Revenue Commissioner merely confirm a fact of general observation. Beer drives out hard drink. Moderation and temperance are supplanting excess in the use of liquors.

People Wanted.

MR. FRANK P. SARGENT, Commissioner of Immigration, has recently returned from an official trip to Hawaii. He reports that the great need of the islands is population, a working and producing population of a class that will purchase and cultivate small holdings of land. This is no doubt a statement of fact. But the trouble in the matter, so far as Hawaii is concerned, is that the same cry is heard in many other lands to which settlers much prefer to go. There is hardly a country in the Western Hemisphere that does not want the same sort of settlers that Mr. SARGENT says are wanted in Hawaii. The call for more people, coming from many directions, is one of the striking but little noticed facts in the world life of to-day. Canada wants toilers and settlers with large or small financial means. Our own South wants people, several millions of them, but is disposed to insist that they be of the most desirable class. New England, the Middle West and the West want workers, particularly in the line of agriculture and general farm work. Cuba wants settlers, but prefers that

they come from the Canary Islands and the north of Spain. Brazil and the Argentine want people by the million. Australia and South Africa point to their vast unoccupied areas and invite the man with a few dollars and a willingness to work. England wants the right kind of people to occupy the farm areas which her own people are deserting to go to the manufacturing centers or to other lands. The settler who can contribute something toward the upbuilding of the country to which he goes can choose his place of residence from an extensive assortment.

The only source from which this widespread demand can be supplied is Europe. The Asiatics, with isolated exceptions in favor of a limited number of Japanese, are not wanted. The supply of desirable Europeans is limited, and no country wants the undesirable. The United States is just now the particular goal of ambition for job lots. We get some good, some bad and many who can be converted into desirable citizens. Canada's arrivals are largely a picked lot, fairly homogeneous and readily absorbed. South America gets some Germans and is now taking a considerable number of Italians. Out of Europe's present emigration of nearly 2,000,000 people a year the United States gets about one-half.

Some consideration has been given to proposals for the establishment of an international bureau for the regulation of the current. There is both a large demand and an abundant supply. The problem is to adjust the two. The United States could get along very well with less than half of its present number of arrivals, and there are many lands where the remainder could go and find ample room for their activities.

"He has accused me, for instance, of pretty nearly every crime he could think of."—The New York Herald.

Oh, no, Old CRACKERS and CHEERS, Mr. JEROME has only touched on you in passing. He has merely scratched the surface.

"That depravity is becoming more and more general among young girls in all parts of Brooklyn than in any other city in the United States."—The New York Herald.

It is said, bad word. Youthful depravity is the invention of the twentieth century. The wicked are getting wicked, and there are no good to grow in virtue. There is only one gleam of light in the situation. As long as wickedness exists there must be detectives, and thus worthy men will continue to earn a comfortable living through the frailty of their fellows.

Since the revolt of the Potemkin; Sebastopol and the adjoining country have been placed permanently under martial law "for the protection and security of the inhabitants," as the editors read. After dusk no one dare leave his house. New arrivals are rigorously interrogated, and if their explanations are not completely satisfactory they are sent to prison; arrests are increasing. The reestablishment of order that is the excuse for all this has caused some panic, even among what the official paper calls the "well intentioned," that equally with criminals they have fled, leaving everything behind them. At Sebastopol, as at Odessa, business is completely at a standstill, the most active and intelligent of the population have been exiled or arrested, and the pleasure resorts at Balaklava, Yalta and other places are deserted. The city is a desert. On the other hand, the prisons, the barracks, the old forts and the barracks are filled with prisoners.

The automobile industry of Italy appears to have before it a prosperous future. One of the many motives for building is the cost and the trouble of slow and laborious. These drawbacks favor motor traction. The Italian Government seems disposed to encourage public automobile services as auxiliaries to the now Government owned railways. The success of Italian motor boats and cars in the recent racing competitions in France has aroused general interest in the whole subject of automobiles. It would seem to be worth the while of American automobile manufacturers to cultivate the Italian field, especially as the general economic revival in Italy has continued during the last six months.

Uncle Sam, Footmaster.

The world's yearly use of post cards is enormous. The publication is interesting. Taking the principal ones first we have:

Germany	1,100,000,000
United States	770,000,000
Great Britain	610,000,000
France	500,000,000
Austria	201,000,000
Russia	154,000,000
Spain	114,000,000
Italy	114,000,000
Japan	114,000,000

As to letters, however, the United States is far ahead of all other countries. The total number of letters sent during 1904 was 4,100,000,000. Great Britain follows next with 2,000,000,000, and then Germany with 1,600,000,000. In 1903 these three countries alone posted no less than 8,550,000,000 letters. France comes next with 4,000,000,000 letters. No other country posted as many as 500,000,000. Estimating our population at 80,000,000 in 1903, the use in that year of 4,100,000,000 letters and 770,000,000 post cards, in all 4,870,000,000 pieces, denotes a postal use that year outside of newspapers, books, parcels and all other kinds of mail matter of sixty-one pieces for each inhabitant. No other country in the world can make such a showing, particularly as we sent over 100,000,000 telegrams in the same year, besides hundreds of millions of telephone messages.

The Bases of Life in Jewish Estimation.

From the American Israelite.

The cruel effects of bigotry and error as nurtured in the Christian Sabbath school and theological seminaries, in which the malicious lies of history have been created, have been demonstrated in a most horrible form in the city of Detroit.

That basest lie of history, sanctified by the Christian Church through centuries, that the Jew is a deicide, has been responsible for more than one crime, of which this latest is by no means the least. It is not time, then, that Christian preachers and teachers were aware of the immorality of perpetuating a falsehood out of which evil grows and can grow nothing but hate, inhumanity and crime?

Reading in Bed.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: I notice your editorial in regard to the Oster recommendation to read in bed, and you make up the combination of bed, book and cigar as the same of pleasure. To insure unbroken rest I would suggest asbestos bed clothing and a suit of tin pajamas.

IMPENDING FAMINE IN RUSSIA.

Comment on the Calamity That Has Befallen the Black Earth Region.

WARSAW, Poland, Aug. 8.—A great misfortune has befallen the hundreds of thousands of peasant farmers in the Black Earth or wheat raising region of southern Russia. A severe famine has broken out, and a large part of the standing grain in the ground, and it is now certain that the Russian wheat crop, on the whole, will be a failure. This crop in good seasons is second in quantity to that of the United States, and nearly millions of bushels are exported. But the vast majority of the farming population does not share in this prosperity. They get enough to eat—and that is all.

Few persons outside of Russia have a realization of what a calamity means to the Russian peasant farmer. His allotment of land, originally small, has been subdivided until each tiller of the soil can barely eke out a wretched existence. If there is a crop failure he cannot procure sufficient food for the feeding of the essentials of life. This was the cause of the famine in 1891, a repetition of whose horrors is now threatened.

The official press has very little to say about this matter, but the opposition newspapers are making the most of it to advance their political ideas. Here is an extract from the *Russkaya Vedomosti* (Russian News) of yesterday:

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EUROPE'S FINE POST OFFICE.

Postmaster Willcox, Arriving Home, Says They Beat Ours in Facilities.

Postmaster Willcox returned yesterday on the Kronprinz Wilhelm from a six weeks trip in Europe. He was met down the bay by the steamer Seagull, bearing the Letter Carriers' Band and Assistant Postmaster Morgan, Supra. Post, Elliott, Rooms and Washington and other department heads. In his office in the Post Office Building the Postmaster discussed later the postal systems of the European capitals.

"I found in none of the great European post offices such congested conditions as prevail here in New York. London, Paris and Berlin have all much better facilities for handling mail matter than we."

"London has the best and greatest post office in the world. Their system of decentralized distribution is similar to that followed in this city, but men, branch stations and all other facilities are more plentiful. It has, for example, three branch offices each larger than our main building, which we only partially occupy. They have 120 branch offices as compared with our 24. They have twelve delivery days for the business section, we nine. We employ 5,000 men, they 29,000, although I must say that these are not all engaged directly in the mail service. It all shows that the wonderful London postal service is better than ours in New York, simply through its larger means of handling an immense business."

"Then, too, London has one central office where all newspapers are mailed, also a separate depot which takes all the incoming packages from outside and distributes them to the branch stations through the parcels post. Both these features are good things and will be adopted here sooner or later."

"One up to date feature of the Paris postal system is the 'petit bleu.' This is a special short letter of, say, 100 words, which, by means of their extensive system of pneumatic tubes, can be delivered to any part of the city in an hour. On the other hand their tubes carry only the 'petit bleus,' in addition to some first class matter. Our tubes carry all our letters, and our tubes were extended we would quite equal Paris in rapid distribution."

"Paris in the handling of late mail. I have recommended these here and know they would be of great assistance in the upper districts of America."

"In view of everything I saw in the foreign offices I am pleased with the New York postal force. I think we ought to have better facilities. For man, our clerks are good, but they do not work in shorter hours than the London employees. Comparisons as to cost are impossible owing to the complicated system of Government appropriation of the European offices. But I am more than ever convinced that the solution for the problem of our congested service is more branch offices and more men using facilities for the delivery of mail matter. Paris, Berlin and London have pneumatic tube service to the side of their land and New York will have the most effective mail service in the world."

SCHOOLMARM CROP SHORT.

Rural Schools Unable to Find Teachers. When Will Work for the Money Offered.

GENEVA, N. Y., Aug. 22.—The schoolmarm crop is very short in this section this year. All country districts are complaining from the same cause. The accomplishments demanded of teachers have been increased year by year until they are beyond the supply of teachers who hold positions in the country. The barred out. About the only teachers left are college and normal graduates and graduates of teachers' training classes, who on account of their special preparation and training feel that they are entitled to better remuneration than is paid in the country districts.

Even if the teachers prepared in the training classes were willing to teach these country schools the salary offered in this section would be inadequate. The situation is likely to grow worse because under the laws which soon go into effect the requirements for teachers are being made so stringent that even the result, it is feared, will be the closing of many rural schools. In some districts means are being sought to attract teachers from the country districts into neighboring villages to attend school the coming winter.

The average value of the rough diamonds imported at New York last year was \$37.50 a carat. The quality of stones that are higher because the cost of labor in cleaning, cutting and polishing must be added. The only explanation of the advance given by the London syndicate is that there is a greater demand for diamonds than formerly. The De Beers Mines, Ltd., which supplies the syndicate with the bulk of the stones, has been paying dividends of 40 per cent.

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